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PROCEEDINGS AND PAPERS.

QUARTERLY GENERAL MEETING, held at the Society's Apartments, William-street, Kilkenny, on Wednesday, July 11th, (by adjournment from the 4th), 1866.

JAMES G. ROBERTSON, Esq., Architect, in the Chair.

The following new Members were elected :—

William Stuart Trench, Esq., J. P., Essex Castle, Carrickmacross : proposed by the Rev. G. H. Reade.

The Very Rev. Dr. Kavanagh, President of Carlow College : proposed by Maurice Lenihan, Esq.

The Rev. Patrick Parker, R. C. C., Duncannon : proposed by R. Long, Esq., M. D.

Mr. Joseph Dunne, High-street, Kilkenny : proposed by Mr. J. Hogan.

Miss Ryan, Kilkenny : proposed by Mr. Prim.

The following presentations were received, and thanks voted to the donors :—

By the Author : “Antiquités Celtiques et Antédeluviens,” Tome Troisième, par M. Boucher de Perthes.

By La Société Impériale d'Emulation d' Abbeville : “Mémoires,” première partie, 1861, 1862, 1863, 1864, et 1865.

By the Society of Antiquaries of London : their “Proceedings,” Vol. II., No. 7, second series.

By the Wiltshire Archæological and Natural History Society : their “Magazine,” No. 28.

By the Society of Antiquaries of Newcastle-upon-Tyne : “Archæologia Æliana,” Part 21, new series.

By the Archæological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland : their “Journal,” Nos. 88, 89.

By the British Archæological Association : their “Journal,” for June and September, 1866.

By the Royal Geological Society of Ireland : their “Journal,” Vol. I., Part 2.

By the Sussex Archæological Society: their "Collections," Vol. XVIII.

By the Cambrian Archæological Association: "Archæologia Cambrensis," No. 47, third series.

By the London and Middlesex Archæological Society: their "Transactions," Vol. III., Part 7.

By the Smithsonian Institution: their "Report," 1864,

By the Authors: "Evans." By T. Reed Appleton, and M. C. Jones, Esqrs.

By the Publisher: "The Gentleman's Magazine" for April, May, and June, 1866.

By the Publisher: "The Builder," Nos. 1200-1213, inclusive.

By the Author: "Observations on an unpublished Essay on Ireland. By Sir W. Petty, A. D. 1687," by W. H. Hardinge, Esq.

By Mr. J. P. Graves, Waterford: A printed Rent Roll of part of the Estates of the Right Hon. John Earl of Ormonde and Ossory sold for the payment of debts, pursuant to Act of Parliament procured for the purpose. The property to be sold was situated in Kilkenny, Tipperary, Carlow, Meath, Dublin, Kildare, and Wicklow; and the interest attaching to the document was, that it set out the names of all the occupying tenants at the time, with the rent paid by each, very much after the fashion of the Landed Estates Court rentals of the present day.

By the Chairman, on the part of Mr. H. Bruce Armstrong, Burnchurch: a remarkably fine bronze spearhead, and a flint arrowhead in excellent preservation.

By Mr. H. Fitzsimons: a piece of bog butter, to which some of the bark of a tree was adhering, found in the turf bog near Abbeyleix. It seemed as if a large roll of butter had been wrapped up in bark, and then placed in the bog.

By Mr. Maurice J. Kelly, Graigue: a shilling of the reign of Charles I.

By Mr. John Dunne, Garryricken: a "gun-money" half-crown of James II.

By Mr. Rowe, Carlow: a photograph of Kellistown Church, county of Carlow.

Mr. E. Clibborn, Curator of the Museum of the Royal Irish Academy, forwarded the following communication through Mr. Graves:—

"As many people are curious to know how the ancients moved the great covering stones, and afterwards lifted them on to their supporting stones, which, together, constituted our cromleacs, it has occurred to me to mention to you, for the good of all parties interested on such matters, how the modern Chinese people, without the aid of engineers, move and place great stones, or weights of any kind, as this process was explained to me a few days since by Colonel Haughton, who, I believe, has had several opportunities of seeing work of this kind performed with perfect success

“No doubt the ancients who constructed the cromleacs, and placed the large pillar stones in this country, wanted those great modern cranes by which we are enabled, by a great loss of time, to economize the power or force of men; and, failing in the appliances we have, they economized time, as it were, while they used the force of many men, bringing into effective operation their strength, the number being able collectively to lift the stone to be moved or raised.

“The difficulty in an operation of this kind arises from the impossibility of our getting more than a half-dozen men to lift a stone at the same moment, without the aid of poles, of which we have equivalents in the handles of the common handbarrow, and also in the poles of the sedan chair. In the latter two carriers work simultaneously, and they have the weight to be lifted divided between them; but if they placed cross sticks under the ends of the poles, so that two men might be employed to hold up the ends of these cross sticks, their middles supporting the pair of original poles, the weight would thus be divided equally between the four men. And, again, if in addition to the four men, and the two supplemental sticks, other cross sticks or bars were placed under the second bars, and their ends held up by eight, the load would be divided between them all; and so on, by using more cross sticks, and doubling the number of beams, we might greatly diminish the load each would have to lift; or, by keeping up the same strain which the first pair of men had to bear, one might increase the original load proportionably.

“And again, as to the principle of the cross stick, or pole, with one man supporting each end of it, the load to be lifted being in the middle of the stick, it follows that, whenever the spaces permitted within the limits of a system of poles, cross sticks may be introduced, a man at the end of each of them, and their middle supporting the frame here and there, and everywhere, so that in this way the lifting or carrying force of hundreds of men could be made effective in lifting and moving one great weight.

“The moving of the big stones upon the original pair of poles, or system of poles, could be effected in the same way as blocks are in the marble quarries at Carrara, where the handspike or lever is used with the most perfect ease and success, the number of men employed to move the long end of a lever or handspike being increased at pleasure, and all made available by means of hand ropes. This method, also adopted in the East, was rendered available by the people of Boutan, as explained by the same gentleman to me, in a sort of catapult, by which they managed in the late war to throw very large stones on Her Majesty's troops, to their great annoyance.

“Thus we see that the antiquary may yet find in use amongst half civilized and barbarous peoples plans and contrivances, which may help him to account for things at home to which our mechanical appliances could not have been applied, though, the weights moved and lifted being so great, one is led to infer that the ancients had machinery, or modes of uniting mechanical force, which we are ignorant of; or, perhaps, that the force which individuals were able to exert was vastly greater than we possess. Yet, on the contrary, it seems that we are stronger, larger, and heavier than the ancients; and it also seems as if the people who took a pleasure in lifting great stones were smaller in person than their neigh-

bours, and, like ants, gloried in co-operative arrangements by which they were enabled to work in masses, and thus exhibit evidence of national feeling."

Some discussion took place on this communication, the objection being raised that the quantity of crossing poles, to raise the weight, would go very far to increase that weight to a serious degree. The general feeling of the meeting seemed to be in favour of the theory of the late King of Denmark, as to the great covering stones of cromleacs having been moved to their position by the formation of inclined planes, and the use of rollers to propel them, by great masses of people, up such inclinations.

The Rev. John O'Hanlon sent the following continuation of his researches amongst the Topographical MSS. of the Ordnance Survey of Ireland :—

"The following is a list of MS. materials for illustrating the History, Topography, and Antiquities of Kerry County, as found in the Catalogue of the Irish Ordnance Survey Office :—I. Inquisitions, 2 vols. (part with Clare); Index of Plans to do., 1 vol.¹ II. Extracts, 2 vols., and Index of Places to do., 1 vol.² Rough Index of Places to Irish part, not arranged.³ III. Letters, 1 vol.⁴ IV. Orthography Letters, 1 vol. V. Name Books, 144, and two Revision Books; also, four Books containing Names on the Barony Maps, and Larkin's County Map. VI. Parish and Barony Names, 1 vol. VII. Memorandums, unbound. VIII. County Index to Names on Maps, 1 vol. IX. Sketches of Antiquities, 21.⁵

"I. The two volumes of Inquisitions mentioned in the Catalogue have been already mentioned note ², p. 103, vol. ii., New Series, 1858, of this Society's Transactions, where the contents of these volumes have been already described; they were at that time classed amongst the Common-place Books. The Kerry Inquisitions are now bound in one book, but are lettered on the back, vols. i., ii., and iii;⁶ they are bound in the usual uniform style of Ordnance Survey MSS. transferred to the Royal Irish Academy.

"II. The two thick 4to volumes of Extracts comprise information of an antiquarian character, collected during the progress of the Ordnance Survey in 1841. The first volume is preceded by an Index of ten columns; it comprises 1168 pages, all of which, however, are not written. I find excerpts here from an Irish Life of St. Finan of locha

¹ These volumes are now preserved in the Royal Irish Academy.

² These volumes are now preserved in the Royal Irish Academy.

³ The Rough Index of Irish Names of Places, not arranged, is yet preserved in the Irish Ordnance Survey Office. This Index comprises 69 loose foolscap folio leaves (incorrectly numbered only 66), written but on one side. The leaves are tied up in blue wrapping paper. These denominations, in Irish cha-

racters, with their English equivalents, refer to subjects named in the Extracts.

⁴ Now preserved in the Royal Irish Academy.

⁵ Now preserved in the Royal Irish Academy.

⁶ These MSS., noted as vols. xvi. and xvii., with the Index to Kerry Inquisitions, are found corresponding with the bound MS. here described; but the foregoing two vols. are inserted in the order of late binding.

laoi; ¹ 'Battle of Ventry' (Irish); 'The Lazy Fellow' (Irish); 'Pursuit of Dermod and Grany' (Irish); 'Battle of Moylena, (Irish);² 'Book of Lismore' (Irish, R. I. A.); 'Book of Glendalough' (Irish, T. C. D.); 'Book of Lecan' (Irish); 'M. Firbis' (Irish); 'O'Gorman MSS.' (Irish); 'Irish Calendars;' Extracts from Irish MSS. in T. C. D.; Extracts from Archdall's 'Monasticon;' from 'Annals of The Four Masters' (Irish and English); from 'Annals of Innisfallen;' from Lanigan's 'Ecclesiastical History;' from Colgan's 'Acta Sanctorum,' and 'Trias Thaumaturga;' from Gough's 'Camden;' from Harris' 'Ware;' from O'Flaherty's 'Ogygia;' from 'Depositions concerning Murders and Robberies committed in the County of Fermanagh, Tralee, &c.' (MS., T. C. D.); from 'Journey of Sir Henry Sydney' (MS., T. C. D.); from 'The Journey of Sir William Fitzwilliams against the Earl of Desmond' (MS., T. C. D.); from 'Ye Names of ye chief families in ye several Countys of Ireland' (MS., T. C. D.). The second volume is preceded by an Index Locorum of 88 pages to Abstracts of Grants of Lands and other Hereditaments, under the 'Acts of Settlement and Explanation,' A. D., 1666-1684, and to the Abstracts of the Conveyances from the Trustees of the Forfeited Estates and Interests in Ireland, in 1688. The tracts to which this Index refers follow; besides an English account of Kerry, copied from a T. C. D. MS., by Eugene O'Curry; Irish Extracts from a Brehon Law Tract, from 'Leabhar Breac,' from 'Poems,' from 'Leabhar Na Huidhre,' from Keating (Halliday's copy). Besides the foregoing, we find Extracts from Vallancey's 'Essay on the Antiquity of the Irish Language;' from Archdall's 'Monasticon;' from Vallancey's 'Collectanea;' from O'Brien's 'Irish Dictionary;' from Smith's 'History of Kerry;' from 'Pacata Hibernica;' from Cox's 'History of Ireland;' from Names of Baronies and Parishes, from Vallancey's Map; from Moryson's 'History of Ireland;' from Archdall's 'Peerage;' from Trotter's 'Walks through Ireland;' from 'Liber Regalis Visitationis' of 1615 and from 'Vita S'i Finani Abbatis, & Confessor, ex Codice Kilkeniensis,' in Marsh's Library, Dublin. This second volume has 1194 numbered pages, nearly all of which are written. Both volumes of extracts are beautifully bound.³ The Index to both of these volumes contains 190 leaves, written only on one side. It is in a separate volume, and corresponds in binding with both the former volumes.

"III. The 4th volume of Letters, containing information relative to the Antiquities of Kerry County, and collected during the progress of the Ordnance Survey there in 1841, is preceded by a closely written Index, consisting of 14 pages, with two additional pages of Index to Sketches, Maps, and Traces. The following 46 letters, written by John O'Donovan, are addressed and noted as follows:—1841, Sept. 22nd, 21, Great Charles-street; July 12th, 1841; July 13th, 14th, 15th, 15th. At Listowel, 15th, 17th, 17th. A liop Tuacail pop b'pú na Feile a 5-Ciappaíge luacpa; Tralee, July 22nd, 24th; Oaingean uí cúir a

¹ According to an annotation in Dr. O'Donovan's handwriting "at Waterville, near Derrinane."

² The foregoing taken from MSS. in

Hodges and Smith's Collection.

³ Some fair Antiquarian Sketches are bound up with these Extracts.

ḡ-Corca ōuībne,¹ 29th, 29th, 30th, 30th, 30th, 30th, 31st; August 4th, 4th, 4th, 7th, 10th, 10th; A ḡ-caṡar Sairbín a n-uíb Ráthach,² 15th, 16th, 17th, 23rd. At Kenmare, in Gleann O Ruachtain, 23rd, do. 23rd, do. 23rd, do. 24th, 28th; Killarney, in Magh O g-Coinchind, 30th, do. 30th, 31st; Sept. 1st, 1st, 1st, 6th, 6th, 7th; at Castle Island, 9th, 9th, 9th, 10th. Next in order follow the 29 letters of Thomas O'Connor, viz.:—Listowel, July 14th, 1841; do. 15th, do. 17th, do. 17th; Tralee, 24th, do. 24th, 24th, 26th; Dingle, 29th, 30th, 30th, 30th; do. August, 2nd, do. 4th, do. 5th, do. 5th, do. 6th, do. 9th, 10th, do. 10th; Cahirciveen, 15th, 15th; Kenmare, 23rd; Killarney, 29th; do. Sept. 6th, do. 2nd, do. 2nd, do. 7th; Castle Island, 10th. Next in order, succeed Dr. Petrie's Letters, thus addressed and dated, viz.:—21, Great Charles-street, Dublin, 9th August, 1841, to John O'Donovan; to Mr. Larcom, Sept. 20th; to same, Sept. 21st. Next two notes of Arthers (?) and Edward W. Dunford. A letter signed Fred. W. Burton, Dingle, Sept. 18th, 1841, closes this collection. These letters contain many scattered rude drawings and diagrams. Besides these, there are the following beautiful sketches, by the artist Wakeman, at least for the most part; they are bound in with the 616 numbered pages of this volume:—1. Round Tower of Rattoo. 2. Doorway of do. 3. Doorway in west gable of Ratass old Church. 4. Teampul Gale, or White Church. 5. Doorway in W. gable of do. 6. Pillar Stone with crosses and Ogham inscription at St. Manchan's grave. 7. Ogham Stone at the Short Strand. 8. Ground Plan of Cahercullaun O'Dun, in Glin North, Dingle Parish. 9. Leac Shiobhaine na n-gimhleach, a stone with an Ogham inscription on shore of Trawbeg. 10. Flag with long Ogham inscription now placed over a vault at the east end of Kilbindun old Church. 11. Supposed arms of M'Carthy More, on ancient flag in Muckruss Abbey. 12. Window in east gable of Teampull Daithlionn old Church in Ballyheigue Parish. 13. Doorway in south wall of do. 14. Stone with cross and Ogham inscription, Kill na g-Colman burial ground. 15. Ogham inscription on stones in Ballantaggart burial-ground, Garfinny Parish. 16. Stone with Ogham inscription in Ballyneesteenig, Cloghan South. 17. Doorway of Aghadoe Church. 18. The Round Castle at Aghadoe. 19. Ground Plan of ancient stone house in Coomawoterig Glen, near Dingle. 20. Do. 21. Cyclopean Doorway in do. 22. Stone with cross and Ogham inscription on Knockeen Hill, near Dingle. 23. Church of Kilmalkedar. 24. Choir Arch of do. 25. Window in N. E. side wall of do. 26. Doorway of do. 27. Building to N. W. of Kilmalkedar. 28. Window in the Church of Gallaross. 29. Church at Gallaross. 30. Window in the Church at do. 31. Doorway of the perfect stone-roofed Church at Gallaross. Besides these, we find the following Maps and Traces, appended to the Kerry Antiquarian Letters, viz.:—1. Castle of Carrigfoile, in Kerry, and a Description how the cannon was planted when it was battered, &c., from 'Pacata Hibernia.' 2. Castle Mang, and River of Mang, from do. 3. Kerry (Traces of), from 'Com. Kerry,' in 'State Papers.' 4. From 'Hibernia,' &c. in do. 5. 'S'igle Draght of Mounster,' in do.

¹ This heading is afterwards repeated over some of the succeeding letters.

² Cahirciveen. It is afterwards repeated in this form in succeeding letters.

6. From 'Kingdome of Ireland,' in Speed's 'Atlas' (1610). 7. 'Province of Mounster,' in do. (1631). 8. 'Irelandiæ Regnum,' in Mercator's 'Atlas' (1636). 9. 'Hiberniæ Pars Australis,' in do. 10. O'Connor's Map of Ireland (Ortelius improved). 11. 'Com. Kerry,' in 'Pacata Hibernia.' 12. County of Kerry, by Charles Smith. 13. Do. 'Down Survey.' 14. Do. Hand Sketch. 15. Do. Railway Map. The foregoing Drawings and Traces are of great value, as illustrations for the historic matter contained in the Antiquarian Letters. They are beautifully, and I am satisfied, correctly, designed and executed.

"IV. The Orthography Letters (quarto size) are tied in a parcel; they consist of loose sheets, and are yet unbound. I find them preceded by an Index of Denominations, contained in fourteen columns. The upper part of the sheets are lithographed directions to the several landed proprietors, requesting them to fill up queries under separate columns, headed—1. Townland, 2. House or Demesne, 3. Popular Name, 4. Spelling recommended by the proprietor: these sheets were issued in 1841 and 1842. In most instances, we find autographs of various country proprietors; and, amongst others, those of the celebrated Daniel O'Connell, Esq., M. P.; his brother, James O'Connell, Esq.; his son, Maurice O'Connell, Esq., M. P.; with several local celebrities. I find the sheets numbered 284; but this number does not include many inserted notes and letters, directed to the Government Officials by landed proprietors.

"V. The Name Books are correctly numbered 144, as I find on counting them, and they resemble in form and subject matter others of the series already described. There are likewise two Revision Books of similar shape, containing certain necessary corrections. We find in them the late Dr. O'Donovan's handwriting, as settling Irish and English orthographies for the Maps and Antiquarian Letters. Of a somewhat larger size are four books, which, according to a descriptive title, contain a 'Copy of the Names on the Barony Maps in the Court House at Tralee, as also from Larkin's County Map, dated 1814.' N. B.—Names not found on the County Map are marked thus ×.' These four small books contain merely a list of Townland Denominations, with occasional descriptive notes or emendations.

"VI. The 4to Volume of Parish and Barony Names is preceded by a List of 33 Authorities for spelling, with an Index of Parishes and Baronies, written out in six columns. It contains 106 numbered leaves, representing double that amount of written pages. It is precisely on the plan of other similar County Volumes already described in former communications. The late Dr. O'Donovan has in all cases settled, both in Irish and English characters, the local orthography. I need scarcely observe how valuable these his derivations and emendations are for purposes of topographical or antiquarian inquiry.

"VII. The Memorandums are to be seen in two large parcels, as yet unbound. The first parcel contains 894 written leaves or fragments, mostly on paper of 4to size. These fragments do not include a vast num-

¹ There is no copy of Larkin's Map of Kerry County at present in the Ord-

nance Survey Library, as I am informed by the Custodian.

ber of beautiful Antiquarian Sketches by local amateur artists, together with a very large number of map hand-sketches, plans of old buildings, &c. The second parcel contains exactly 700 written leaves or fragments, chiefly inscribed on paper of 4to size. Besides these pages, this second parcel comprises a large number of amateur sketches by local artists, and also several map traces, plans and other diagrams. These two parcels are of inconceivable value for purposes of the Kerry historian, antiquarian, or topographer. There are various fragments of noteworthy information, contributed by intelligent county residents.

"VIII. The folio known as The County Index to Names on Maps is a thick MS. volume, comprising 166 leaves, nearly corresponding in size, arrangement, and denominational matter, with other volumes already described by the writer, in connexion with various Irish Counties. No figures referring to areas are found, however, in this volume.

"IX. In an oblong Portfolio, now kept in the Royal Irish Academy, I find the following Sketches referring to Kerry :—1. Dunurlin. Cloghaun near Ferriter's Cove. 2. Killarney ; Muckcross Abbey, stone in, said to belong to a Mac Carthy More. 3. Kilmalkedar. Stone-roofed building (Church), at Gallaros. 4. Rattoo ; Church and Tower of Rattoo. The foregoing are all I find in this volume, and are roughly finished pencil sketches by W. Wakeman, from which some neater ink sketches appear to have been copied afterwards by him. The latter and smaller ink sketches are found illustrating the volume of Antiquarian Letters, where we must look for most of the 21 Sketches mentioned in the Ordnance Survey Index. It is quite possible, the two uncatalogued Sketches unaccounted for may be found loosely inserted, with many other amateur sketches, now preserved amongst the Memorandums in the Ordnance Survey Office. As all of the latter have been evidently prepared to illustrate the Antiquarian Letters and Extracts, and can serve no other useful purpose where they now remain, I am convinced, on suitable application being made to the Government Authorities, these sketches would be transferred to the Royal Irish Academy, where they might be appropriately inserted in the bound volumes there kept. Amongst these Sketches would be seen well-outlined drawings of the most primitive monuments and ruined churches now remaining in these kingdoms."

This Paper closes a description of Ordnance Survey Records relating to the Munster Province, and that portion of the original collection which has now been so happily and conveniently arranged in the Royal Irish Academy's Library.

Mr. Graves observed, that a striking proof of the usefulness of Societies such as theirs had been afforded by the discovery in their Museum, where it could least be looked for, of a unique impression of the seal of an English monastery, the history of the latter being remarkably connected with the Tudor dynasty. The house of the Friars Observants of East Greenwich, originally established by Edward IV., had received a new foundation charter from Henry VII., in the first year of his reign (1485). Henry VIII. was, also,



NORMAN FONT.
Formerly in the Parish Church of Kells, Co. Kilkenny.

a zealous promoter of their interests until the Friars espoused the cause of Queen Catherine, when Henry suppressed this house and all those of the Order throughout England. On the accession of Mary the Friars were reinstated, and were finally expelled by Elizabeth, in 1559. Mr. Graves said that he was given the impression from which the accompanying engraving has been made, by the late Rev. Dr. Nowlan, P. P. of Gowran, county of Kilkenny, in the year 1849; and he was informed by Dr. Nowlan that he had received the impression about forty years previously from some person connected with the Dominican Abbey, Kilkenny, accompanied by the information that the matrix had been found somewhere about that Abbey, and was believed to have been its ancient seal. It is needless to observe that such could not be the case; the legend reading, in the bold capitals of the latter part of the fifteenth century,



SIGILLVM * GARDIANI * GRVWVCESIS *
 “The Seal of the Warden of Greenwich.” Perhaps some one of the Friars expelled by Henry VIII. may have been an Irishman, and have found refuge in Kilkenny, carrying the seal of the Warden with him. The device in the field of the seal was the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin (to whom, with St. Francis and All Saints, the Convent was dedicated); beneath which is an escutcheon of the arms of France and England, quarterly, ensigned with the head of a cherub. The seal may be assigned to the period of the second foundation of the Franciscan Convent at Greenwich, in the year 1485.¹

The Rev. James Graves exhibited a photograph of the ancient font of the parish church of Kells, from which the accompanying woodcut had been engraved by O. Jewitt, Esq.

This font was of very early date, being decidedly Norman in its character and ornamentation. The bowl presented the form of the Norman “cushion” capital, and was originally carved, as represented in the accompanying engraving, only at one angle—the remaining angles never having received the enrichment which was evidently intended. The material was a freestone, and probably

¹ The Society is indebted to Mr. Albert Way for the electrotpe cast, from which the illustration is printed. The information respecting the Greenwich

monastery is taken from an article of Mr. Way's, in the “Journal” of the Archæological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland, vol. xxiii., p. 52, *et seq.*

was imported from England. The pillar was originally higher, one stone being now lost, and the bowl was intended to be lined with lead; the remains of hinges, and of a fastening or hasp, showed that it was originally provided with a cover.

The parish church of St. Kieran of Kells was in existence before Geoffrey De Marisco founded a monastery here, in the year 1183, in honour of the Blessed Virgin Mary. This we learn from the fact recorded in the "*Registrum Cænobii S. Mariæ de Kenlis*," viz., that, because there were not any Canons Regular then to be found in Ireland, De Marisco appointed the four priests who officiated in the church of St. Kieran of Kells to discharge the office of Canons in the newly founded monastery until he was able to provide himself with others ("*Monast. Anglican.*," p. 1142). The rectory of St. Kieran of Kells must have been about this time appropriated to the monastery. It appears so appropriated in the Confirmation Charter granted by Henry IV., on the 8th of February, in the thirteenth year of his reign; wherein, amongst other possessions, the King confirms the Prior and Convent of the Blessed Mary of Kells in Ossory in the right, title, and possession which they have in the church of St. Kieran, otherwise called the chapel of their said founder ("*Rot. Pat. 13 Hen. IV.*," 53). The rectory remained appropriate to the monks till the dissolution of the Priory, when it was found by inquisition to be part of their possessions ("*Monast. Hibern.*," p. 364).

The date of this font might safely be assigned to the latter end of the twelfth century; and it was probably carved by some of the English Canons introduced by De Marisco, as it bears no trace of Hiberno-Romanesque workmanship. It now, by permission of the Rev. C. Darby, Rector of Kells, serves as the font for the Cathedral of St. Canice, the four angles having been newly carved in facsimile of the original ornamentation, and the bowl otherwise suitably restored.

Col. N. Ludlow Beamish requested the attention of Members to the following query:—

"Having lately become the proprietor of Mourne Abbey, near Mallow, I wish to inquire whether any of your contributors could give any particulars of its history beyond what is contained in Smith's or Gibson's "*History of Cork*," (vol. i., p. 172). According to these authorities, it was a Preceptory of Knights of St. John of Jerusalem founded in the reign of King John, and, strange to say, *by an Englishman*."

The Rev. W. C. Lukis, F. S. A., sent the following observations in reference to Mr. M. Du Noyer's Paper "*On Cromleacs near Tra- more*:"—

"'What is a Cromleac?' These are the first words of an article in this year's April Number of the Journal; and the question is asked by

Mr. Du Noyer, who acknowledges his inability to answer it to the satisfaction of a critical antiquary, while at the same time he admits the inability of such an antiquary to answer it to his. The writer does me the honour to refer to an Essay of mine, read at a General Meeting of the Wiltshire Archæological and Natural History Society, in 1861, in which I suggested the propriety of getting rid of the word. One of my reasons for, the suggestion was, to remove the very difficulty which he finds accompanies the study of the structures commonly known under this appellation—a name which totally fails to describe the monuments in question, and which has given rise to erroneous views with regard to them. It is admitted that the word is of modern origin, and it is well known that foreign antiquaries apply it to a very different and distinct class of monument.

“Mr. Du Noyer rejects the Danish definition of a Cromleac, which I accept (supposing English antiquaries to be unwilling to part with the word) because I am convinced that it is the one which approaches nearest to the truth; and he is willing to adopt the definitions of Colonel Meadows Taylor, in his ‘Celtic, Druidical, or Scythian Monuments of the Dekhan,’ which are divided by him into two classes—Cromleacs and Kistvaens. The former structure is here described as ‘a rectangular monument, formed of three slabs of stone, and roofed with a horizontal slab, the whole above ground, and open at one side;’ while the latter is said to be ‘a stone box, or chamber, formed of four slabs, and covered by a horizontal slab, whether it has been constructed above ground, or covered by a Tumulus.’ These definitions, Mr. Du Noyer, adds ‘explain clearly the precise difference between them, and they very nearly apply to such remains existing in Europe.’ He then gives us his own definition of a Cromleac in the following words:—‘A megalithic chamber, usually rectangular, and sometimes open at one end, formed of four or more upright slabs, on which is poised in a slanting position a large covering stone, the whole structure resting on the natural soil, and presenting no indications of having ever been enveloped in a mound or Tumulus.’ This structure he considers to have been, not sepulchral, but commemorative—not a tomb, but a cenotaph—and to be ‘distinct from a Kistvaen, or true sepulchral chamber.’ And, lest it should be urged against his theory that monuments fulfilling in all essential particulars the conditions he assigns have been exhumed from their mounds, he is compelled to say that, so far as his information goes, he has never heard or read of sepulchral remains having been found beneath the covering slab of a Cromleac, *as he understands the term*; and that no *true Cromleac* has ever been exhumed from its mound.

“He must allow me to say, that I altogether dissent from his view; and that, instead of throwing light upon the subject, his definition tends to obscure it still more, and to carry us back into those regions of misty conjectures upon which I had hoped students of primeval antiquities had for several years turned their backs for ever.

“Mr. Du Noyer says, that, after suggesting the discontinuance of the term ‘Cromleac,’ I have not offered to supply its place with another name. It is true that I did not at that time offer another more appropriate term; but in an article printed not long afterwards in the ‘Journal of the Bri-

tish Archæological Association' I did so, to which I purpose to revert presently. First of all, I should wish to point out wherein Mr. Du Noyer has failed to clear up the subject. He *assumes* too much; he assumes that the structures, which he proceeds to describe, have always been in the condition in which they now appear; and he assumes, also, that no sepulchral remains have ever been found in them. I am somewhat surprised that he, holding such assumptions for incontestable facts, does not throw in his lot, to a certain extent, with those who in former days of archæological ignorance, regarded them all from one point of view, and declare his belief that 'Cromleacs,' as he understands the term, were structures on which human victims were immolated. From his standpoint I do not see what there is to hinder such a palpable conclusion. Once admit that these stone chambers were originally designed to be exposed to view from the ground level, and that they were not sepulchres, and then what more likely than that they must have been erected by a barbarous people for a special purpose, and that a purpose connected with mysterious religious rites.

"When it is considered that no ancient tradition connects these monuments with the historical period, and that they exhibit all the features of primeval simplicity in their architectural construction, it is not surprising that so few should have endured unimpaired to our day. The great majority of them have suffered from the ravages of time, and the destructive hands of man. We know, however, the ruined edifices of ancient Egypt, Greece, and Rome, erected with all the art and science of the highest civilization, present to our eyes but feeble traces of their pristine magnificence and solidity; why then should it be imagined that structures more ancient, perhaps, than the oldest edifices of these ancient empires, erected with rude shapeless blocks, often of vast size, without the elements of permanent stability—marvellously constructed, when the appliances of so remote an age are borne in mind—should have escaped ruin altogether, and now stand before us in all the proportions and perfectness of their original condition? It appears to me, therefore, that we cannot safely, and with any certain approximation to the truth, lay down a definition such as that of Mr. Du Noyer. It could only be true on the certainty that the structure had never been enclosed in a Tumulus, and that it had never been intended for a sepulchre, both of which points it would be quite impossible for archæologists to grant.

"It may be asked of him, 'Are you quite sure that no vestige of the original covering mound remains; and have the chambers, as well as the surrounding earth, been carefully examined by any person well acquainted with these ancient monuments, and possessed of a knowledge of what kind of objects should be found?' If the first part of the question be answered in the affirmative, it would be no proof whatever that an enveloping mound had never existed. I have seen many structures of this nature, standing up in their naked simplicity, in the immediate neighbourhood of Tumuli containing stone chambers identical in every respect with them, yet yielding similar and unmistakeable proofs of their original purpose. But I cannot remember to have ever examined with care the interior and exterior of such a structure without meeting with some relic of early antiquity that was convincing as to the intention of its builders,

and that intention the construction of a place of sepulture. It is, therefore, much more reasonable on both these grounds to conclude that these monuments belong to one class, than to form two classes—Cromleacs and Kistvaens—and to pronounce them to be distinct, and intended to serve different purposes, on what I cannot but declare is very insufficient evidence.

“With such facts before us, I cannot conceive how any one can maintain that these naked and often deformed structures are complete and perfect monuments, and were never sepulchral chambers. It appears to me to be a libel on the primeval builders to attribute to them such imperfect works. Men who accepted nature’s gigantic and ponderous offerings, and who, without venturing to reduce their unwieldy proportions, employed them with marvellous skill in the construction of their tombs, and were well aware how necessary and all-important it was to strengthen the works of their hands with a firm outer crust of earth or of small stones, were not likely to erect so unstable and dangerous a monument as that which comes under Mr. Du Noyer’s definition of a Cromleac.

“For these reasons, and others, into which I will not now enter, the definition of Mr. Worsaae, and that which I have given in my *Essay*, are more in accordance with the results of observations and investigations than that which Mr. Du Noyer has adopted.

“One important fact appears to be forgotten by some antiquaries, or at least they seldom or never allude to it, when undertaking to describe and classify these primeval structures, viz. :—That the chambered Tumuli (including uncovered stone chambers) do not all belong to one date, although they belong to one epoch—the Age of Stone, which probably endured for a considerable period. It is not rapidly that civilization influences barbarous tribes, and in those early days of man’s history civilization operated upon them much more slowly than in more recent times. During this long period of the Stone Age it is not improbable that the progress of civilization has left its traces upon the monuments and their contents; and I have attempted to show this in a recent Article in the volume of the British Archæological Association for 1866. It will be seen that some of these sepulchral buildings exhibit an advance in the science of architectural construction, and that differences of form may have resulted from grander conceptions of what was due to the memory of departed heroes and revered chiefs of families. Hence, we may expect to find monuments of various kinds, although they were all erected to serve one and the same purpose. For this reason, it is far more desirable to simplify the classification than to distract the mind with a multitude of ideal subdivisions, as has been done by Sir Gardiner Wilkinson and others. And this brings me to the subject which, at the commencement, I proposed to touch upon before I concluded.

“Holding, as I do most firmly, the opinion that all the structures which are commonly called Cromleacs were once enveloped in a mound, and were sepulchres, I have suggested the propriety of discontinuing the use of this modern word Cromleac or Cromlech by the archæologists of Great Britain (and French antiquaries would do well likewise to put aside their equally inappropriate and modern term ‘Dolmen,’ applied to the same dilapidated structures), and of substituting the term ‘chambered

Tumulus.' This term would include every variety of Tumular monument in which a stone chamber is concerned, and would at once specify the kind of sepulchre when perfect, separating it from the other more simple, though often less ancient, monument—the Tumulus without a stone chamber. When the stone structure is entirely deprived of its enveloping mound, it would then be described as a 'denuded sepulchral chamber;' and in many instances it would be possible, by a careful observation of the site where it stands, to determine whether the Tumulus had belonged to the circular or elongated form. I have lately been residing for some months in the immediate neighbourhood of Carnac, in Brittany, where may be seen at least one hundred chambered Tumuli in every condition, from the most perfect to the most dilapidated; and I can point to very few where I found it impossible to ascertain the form and dimensions of the Tumulus, and to not one from which I have not obtained positive evidence of its sepulchral character.

"I trust I have made it clear that six years ago I had good reasons for approving of the definition given by Mr. Worsaae; and I can only add, that every additional year's practical acquaintance with these monuments has served to settle me more firmly in this view."

Mr. Du Noyer made the following reply to the observations of the Rev. W. C. Lukis.

"In the lengthened remarks which the Rev. Mr. Lukis makes on my paper relating to the classification of ancient Irish megalithic and earthen structures, he says :—"The Danish definition of a Cromleac' (which I reject) 'approaches nearest to the truth.' May I ask the truth of what?

"The word Cromleac is interpreted by all, to mean 'bowed or bending stone;' but the Danish antiquaries apply it to a barrow or mound, with a central chamber, and an encircling row of upright stones. If they called the central chamber 'the Cromleac,' the word would have a definite meaning, but it is quite unsuited as descriptive of *the whole structure*. How, then, does it 'approach nearest to the truth'?"

"Mr. Lukis, in my opinion, travels beyond the legitimate field of criticism when he expresses his '*surprise*' that I did not assert that 'Cromleacs were structures on which human victims were immolated:' to this remark I have only to say, that, a person's wonderment at anything has nothing to say to the fair discussion of an obscure point in archaeology.

"The Cromleacs which remain to us, from the immense weight of the stones forming them, and the rude though skilful nature of their construction, may have stood as we now see them, from the day of their erection, thousands of years ago; and if left undisturbed will last for thousands of years to come; all argument based on their comparison with the ancient remains of Egypt, Greece, and Italy, as a method of determining their age is futile; their very simplicity being the main element of their strength. Stonehenge could be levelled to the ground by a storm which would whistle harmlessly through a Cromleac.

"There would not, I fear, be the least use in trying to convince Mr. Lukis that a Cromleac had never been enclosed in a mound; for, if I assert that no vestige of an enveloping mound is now to be seen around any of our Cromleacs (as I have defined the word), the answer is now given to

me, 'You have no proof whatever that an enveloping mound never existed.' I say, however, that the '*onus probandi*' rests with Mr. Lukis, and I call on him to supply it.

"Mr. Lukis says, 'He has seen many structures of this nature standing up in their naked simplicity in the immediate neighbourhood of Tumuli containing stone chambers identical in every respect with them;' but are not these stone chambers, covered or naked, 'Kistvaens,' and not true 'Cromleacs?'

"Cromleacs and Kistvaens are all one *class* or genus, but different as to *order* or species, and my object is to define this difference; and the discussion of the subject should be approached in a fair, candid, and liberal spirit.

"I have long thought, and I quite agree on this point with Mr. Lukis, that all our megalithic structures are not of one date, though they belong to the 'Stone Age;' and I propose in a future number of the Society's 'Journal' to show that it is highly probable that this remark refers to our 'Cromleacs.'

"Mr. Lukis proposes to substitute the term '*Chambered Tumulus*' for 'Cromleac.' How can a term having a compound meaning be applicable to a simple object? How can a chamber be also a Tumulus at one and the same time? If this is Mr. Lukis' idea of simplification, I claim to be allowed in turn to express my 'surprise.'

"We want a name for a species of megalithic structure distinct from our Kistvaens and chambered Tumuli; and 'Cromleac' will, in my opinion, answer uncommonly well. 'A chambered Tumulus' will generically describe 'all Tumuli containing chambers;' that I fully admit; but a chambered Tumulus is not a Cromleac."

The following papers were submitted to the Meeting:—

REMARKS ON A KISTVAEN, AND ON SOME CARVINGS ON AN "EARTH-FAST" ROCK, IN THE COUNTY OF LOUTH.

BY GEORGE V. DU NOYER, M. R. I. A.

At the northern end of the parish of Monasterboice, and at the distance of about three miles east of Collon, in the county of Louth, there is a large Kistvaen, in a remarkably good state of preservation, called CALLIAGH DIRRA'S HOUSE. It stands on the line of an apparently old wall fence; and it is exceedingly interesting, as tending to aid in illustrating my remarks on the classification of ancient megalithic structures published in the last number of our Journal.

This grave, "House," or "Bed," as such remains are frequently called, measures internally 12 feet 8 inches in length, by 3 feet in width at its western, and 4 feet at its eastern end. In it

CORRIGENDA.

Page 492, line 42, *for* Mr. M. Du Noyer's paper, *read* Mr. Du Noyer's paper
— 493, — 37, *for* Rhunic, *read* Kunic.